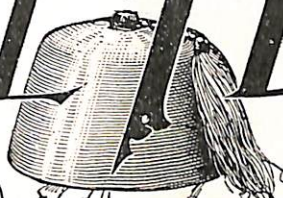
S. D. Nickerson
Masonic Temple

Volume IV.
....Number 5.

MAY, 1896.

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ



In the interests of Freemasonry and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER,
EDITOR.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR
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THE MASONIC PUBLISHING CO.
38 FIRST AVENUE,
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HOME OFFICE, DES MOINES IOWA.

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Only $12 a year, payable $3 quarterly.

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Also Benefits for loss of sight of one or both eyes, or loss of one or both hands or feet, and costs

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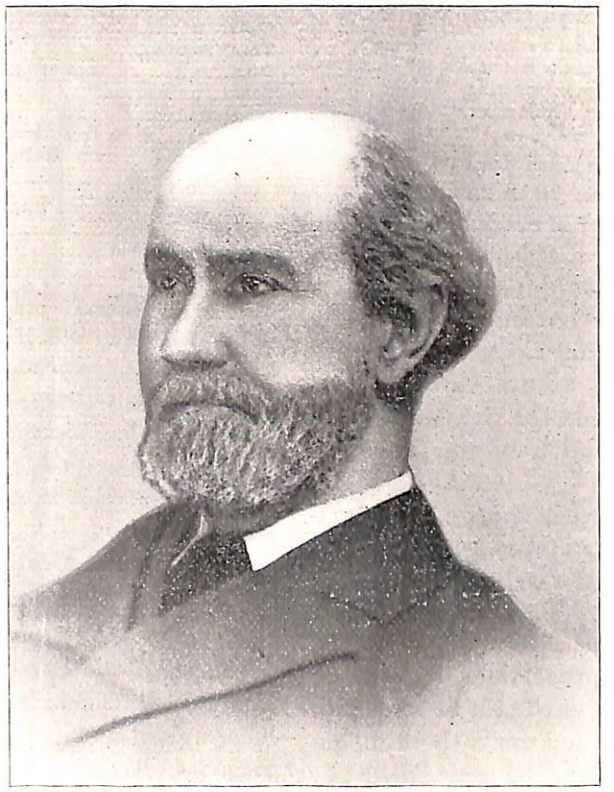
The FREEMASON

In the Interests of Freemasonry and Concordant Orders in Iowa.

VOLUME IV. CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, MAY, 1896. NUMBER 5.



THE LATE REV. ROB. MORRIS, D. D. LL. D.
POET LAUREATE OF MASONRY.

"IMMANUEL."

[ROB. MORRIS.]

Warriors at the Mystic pealing,
Of the solemn vesper bell,
At their tri-form altar kneeling,
Whisper each "Immanuel."

When the watch and ward is o'er,
Guarding the asylum well—
Smiles of peace around them hover
At thy name "Immanuel."

When the matin notes are ringing
Cheerfully from mount and dell,
Strength for warfare still is springing
From thy name "Immanuel."

When some deed of emprise sharing,
Stamped with justice, cherished well,
Prompts each Knight to noble daring,
'Tis for thee "Immanuel."

When the adverse storm cloud lowers,
O'er our pathway, dark and fell,
Knight heroic never cowers
Cheered by thee, "Immanuel."

When death's damps are o'er us stealing,
And has breathed the last "farewell"
To a brighter world revealing,
Thou shalt come, "Immanuel."

A QUESTION OF INTEREST

I.—RIGHT OF MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1. The right of every Master Mason in good standing to a Masonic home is absolute in the particular jurisdiction in which he resides, after timely residence therein.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall by appropriate legislation secure to every non-affiliate Master Mason the right guaranteed by the foregoing section of this article.—(*Const. Ia., XIV.*)

SEC. 259 B.—STATUS, RIGHTS, AND OBLIGATIONS OF NON-AFFILIATES AND UN-AFFILIATES.—They have the right of petitioning for re-instatement. They shall not have Masonic aid, nor be permitted to visit lodges, walk in Masonic processions, or receive Masonic burial, but shall still be subject to Masonic discipline, and under those obligations which can never be repudiated nor laid aside.—(*Code of Iowa*).

We do not quote these sections to raise controversy, but to inquire if the provisions, thus indiscriminately applied to NON and UN-affiliates is not a controvention of the rights assured to the first named class in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Lowa.

MARION'S GREAT EVENT.

It was decidedly a great occasion when the spacious new Temple of our home city was thrown open for the Masonic reception and banquet on May 7, 1896. Every nook and corner was crowded with the members and friends of the fraternity. The officers and members as well as the ladies, are to be congratulated upon the success of their undertaking. The proceeds will be used to furnish the lodge room of the Temple in which all the bodies now meet. The following program was rendered:

Music by the Marion Cornet Band	
Address of Welcome	HON. W. G. THOMPSON.
Vocal Quartette	MRS. F. H. HILLIARD, MRS. HIRAM ROBINSON, J. B. MCKEAN, J. W. PATTERSON.
Quartette	HARMONY QUARTETTE.
Vocal Solo	MISS CYNTHIA WHITE.
Duet	MRS. HILLIARD, MISS BESSIE ROBINSON.
Solo	MRS. HIRAM ROBINSON.
Quartette	MRS. HILLIARD, MISS WHITE, MRS ROBINSON, MISS ROBINSON.

BANQUET.

TOASTS:

Masonry—Past	HON. T. S. PARVIN, LL. D.
Masonry—Present	REV. J. B. LEE.
Masonry—Future	JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER.
Quartette	MRS. HILLIARD, MRS. ROBINSON, MESSRS MCKEAN, PATTERSON.

Notwithstanding the crowded condition of the Temple everybody was good humored and the event closed at 11:30 p. m., pronounced a big success.

Great praise is due the ladies of Marion for their services in preparing and serving the banquet.

The dedication will follow in due time.

NEW CLOTHING FIRM.

Messrs E. E. Parsons and W. J. Collar, lately in business separately in Marion, have united under the firm name of Parsons & Collar, and have occupied the store room at 206 Second Avenue (old Post Office block), where they are prepared to supply the wants of the trade. Brother Collar is a member of the various Masonic bodies in Marion and both gentlemen are congenial, whole-souled men with whom it will be a pleasure to do business. We bid them welcome to the "Temple City."

ALEXANDER LAURANCE.

Alexander Laurance was born September 30, 1811, in the parish of New Deer, county of Aberdeen, Scotland.

He became a member of Fraser Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Strichan, Aberdeenshire, on August 14, 1832. This lodge was organized as an operative body, and later became mixed, or a combination of operative and speculative. Other similar lodges then existed and so continued for some time in Scotland. These all kept possession of and worked the Royal Arch as pertaining to and part of the Master Mason's degree.

Mr. Laurance emigrated to America in 1833, at a time when Morganism and its absurdities were rampant. He did not avail himself of the privilege of affiliation until in Cedar Rapids, where, under the mastership of A. R. West he was duly admitted as a member of Crescent Lodge, of which body he has since been an honored member.

EXPECTED TO HEAR THIS.

From our reading of the nomination for office by *Periodical* in our neighboring county, we have all along expected the following: "Representations have been made to me that the practice of canvassing for office is becoming prevalent, both private Lodges and Grand Lodge, and having been convinced, through developments made in an appeal against the election of an officer in a certain private lodge, that the most open and unblushing canvassing had taken place in that particular instance, I deem it my duty to condemn as strongly as possible any such practice."—*G. M., add Can. '95.*

HARMONY PREVAILED.

During the past two years, possibly the fiercest political struggle ever known in this state has been carried on among our people. So heated has this struggle been, and so high have men's passions run, that friendships of a lifetime have been broken up. The relations between churches and pastors have been destroyed, and churches and schools and even family circles have been broken up by the fierce heat of political passion. Yet through it all no note of discord has entered any Masonic Lodge. No Masonic Lodge in Alabama has been affected by this fierce struggle, and this should be a monument to the Masonic Lodges of Alabama.—*G. M. Add. Ala. '94.*

MASONIC NOTES.

For the first time in twenty-five years the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania officially visited Oil City recently.

Dr. William Salmon, of Glamorgan, Wales, is 107 years old. He is the oldest living Mason.

The managers of the Michigan Masonic Home have ordered the institution closed. The 37 inmates must find other quarters.

Prominent members of the fraternity in Jersey City have formed a permanent organization with the purpose of erecting a Masonic temple to cost not less than $100,000.

The St. John's Day league, of Ky., has been re-organized for this year and expects to excel its good work of last year for the Masonic Home, the net amount of which was $4316.46.

The great "Irish liberator," Daniel O'Connell, was a zealous Mason and W. M. of lodge No. 189, of Dublin. In 1838 he was induced by the clergy of his church to withdraw from the Order.

In England all entered apprentices wear a plain white apron, a fellow craft has a blue rosette in each lower corner and blue strings, while Master Masons' apron has a blue rosette in each lower corner and one in the flap and a blue border to the apron tied with blue strings.

IOWA MASONIC EXCHANGE.

We are frequently asked to find out whether some way cannot be devised by which an exchange of Annals and Proceedings of the various Grand bodies can be made. We will give this space for the purpose of calling attention to the matter.

Consignments of duplicates can be made to us (if prepaid) and we will return all numbers wanted by the consigners, and continue to do so as fast as their wants come in, in the order of registry. This is not done for profit but to encourage the formation of libraries by bodies and individuals.

WANTED.

Brother Wm. Elsom, Cedar Rapids, wants 1884 Grand Chapter Iowa O. E. S. Also offers $1.00 each for originals of Grand Lodge of Iowa for 1844, '46, '47.

We Want:—Proceedings Imperial Council N. M. S., No. 1 to 13, 14 to 19 years. 50 cents per year offered. Also Grand Chapter O. E. S. of Iowa, for 1879, '83, '84.

FOR SALE.

Four bound copies of the *Iowa Freemason and Knight Templar*, Vol. 1 and 2, cloth, plain. Bound in one volume. Price $1.50 each, carriage free.

FOR EXCHANGE ONLY.

Iowa G. L. Proceedings 1855; '56 (2); '65, '66, '67 (2); '69 (4); '70 (2); '71; '72 (2); '73 (3); '75, '83, '84, '86 (2); '87, '88 (3); '89 (4), '90 (2); '91 (3); '92 (2); '93, 94 (2); '95.

Iowa Grand Chapter 1869, '70, '71, '72 (2); '73 (3); '74 (3); '75 (3); '76 (2); '77 (3); '78 (3); '79, '80 (3); '81 (2); '82, '83, '84, '85 (2); '86 (2); '87 (2); '88, '89, '90, '91 (2); '92 (2); '93 (2); '94, '95.

Iowa Grand Commandery, 1882, '84, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91 (2); '92 (3); '93 (3); '94, '95 (2).

Iowa Grand Chapter O. E. S., 1886, '93, '94, '95.

Imperial Council N. M. S., 1887, '93 (2); '94, '95 (2).

Correspondence solicited.

JNO. W. GEIGER.

Marion, Iowa.

OUR BOOK TABLE.

THE MIDLAND MONTHLY comes along for May with its contents crowded with the best of articles. An article by Dr. T. S. Parvin on "Recollections of William Henry Harrison" is of special interest to our readers. Johnson Brigham, publishers, Des Moines, $1.50 per year.

OVERLAND MONTHLY for March reaches us with a marked item on the design of its cover by Pierre N. Boeringer, "representing the ceremonial of the Sia tribe of Indians, the ritual of the Snake Society of Indian Freemasonry. The figure on the left of the cover represents the Vice Ho-no-ai-te, or president. The black and white work under the OVERLAND shield represents the sand painting customary to the rites of the Association." (See the account of Anna Coxe Stevenson, Eleventh Annual Report Bureau of Ethnology).—San Francisco, Cal., $3.00 per year.

We owe thanks to E. Grand Recorder Sir Richard Lambert, for the proceedings of the Louisiana Grand Chapter, Grand Council and Grand Commandery for 1896, all held in New Orleans Feb. 11-12, 1896.

The same to R. W., Geo. W. Carrington, Richmond, for the Proceedings of the 118th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia held in Richmond Dec. 3-5, 1895.

The same to R. W. Michael Nesbit, Grand Secretary, for the Abstract of the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for 1895. This Grand body holds quarterly as well as annual Grand Communications.

[From the Report on Fraternal Correspondence in Iowa Grand Bodies.]

CORRESPONDENCE GLEANINGS.

To our fraters at home we bring cheer and encouragement; to "the mutuals" we tender thanks for kind words and knightly greetings. These tokens of interest given to the living are infinitely better than any words of eulogy when one is dead.

You will come when my face is as pale as the flowers,
The lily-white flowers you strew on my bier;
You will come at the close of the long, lonely hours,
And show how you love me, when I am not here.
You will bring of these flowers the best and the rarest,
To lay on my casket in beauty and bloom:
You will whisper my name 'mid the proudest and fairest,
And tell how my going has left you in gloom,
When nothing can comfort the heart that is sore;
But why not before, friend; oh, why not before?"
—(*Dr. Coxe*) *Iowa.*

"It will be observed that Section 259b is similar to the Utah law. We predict that it will do no more good in Iowa than it has done in Utah. To legislate for non-affiliates is time and money wasted."—*Utah.*

GRAND COMMANDERIES.

"A man is not a Knight Templar simply because he wears the sacred emblem of the order upon his watch chain, any more than a pirate ship belongs to us because she floats our standard of liberty. In other words, it takes more than our ceremony and the watch charm to make a true soldier of the cross. The idea that all there is in Templarism is to be found in the uniform and on dress parade, must be banished, or we perish. The things which must perpetuate the institution, are its sublime teachings, which are everlasting, and not the outer coverings and ceremonies, which will decay and be forgotten. A Knight Templar must be an enemy to vice in all its forms, and it will be found that whenever there is a reconciliation between the two the Templar is no more. He may hold his sword, but he has dishonored it by drawing it in other than a just and virtuous cause. He may be able to go through the ceremonies of the order, but they are to him utterances of vain words without meaning or import."—(Grand Commander's Address.)—*Arkansas.*

But any member whose dues are paid, may, upon his request therefor, be granted a dimit for the purpose of becoming a non-affiliate, subject to the disabilities of such, and therefor shall be deprived of all Masonic rights, except that of petition for restoration to membership. And in the case of such dimits the Secretaries of the Lodges shall make the same entries and give the same notices to sister lodges as in the case of suspension. (Standard By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges.)—*Montana.*

"The Grand Commander suggested that an occasional social, where the wives and daughters are invited, will do much to quicken the life of a Commandery—to which we heartily agree. It will also keep the wives in good humor when their husbands devote the necessary time to their respective conclaves; we do not allude to hours later than those of the conclave, where, in Maryland at least, a box of fried oysters acts as a bread pill does in other cases."—*Maryland.*

"Nominations may be made for any office by simply naming the candidate without further remark. If two unsucessful ballots have been had, *upon the third ballot for the election of any officer of this Grand Commandery only the votes cast for the two candidates who received the largest number of votes on the second ballot shall be counted, and he who receives the largest vote on the third ballot shall be duly elected thereby.*"—*West Va.*

The Indiana *Freemason* tells of a successful objection to the installation of a worshipful master elect. He had not attended a lodge meeting for some years, and so he was not considered fit to fill the office. The same paper tells of a candidate who objected to the preparation for initiation, but who by a prudent and apt past master, was induced to submit, and who, after learning the reasons of the requirements, developed a fitting interest in the ceremonies. In each case the result justified the action adopted.—*Voice of Masonry.*

THE LODGES.

GRAND LODGES MEET.
Iowa, Boone, June 2, 1896.

GRAND OFFICERS.

GEO. W. BALL.....GRAND MASTER
Iowa City.
Willis S. Gardner.....Senior Grand Warden
Clinton.
W. L. Ehlers.....Junior Grand Warden
Correctionville.
H. T. Blackburn.....Grand Treasurer
Des Moines.
T. S. Parvin.....Grand Secretary
Cedar Rapids.

APPOINTED.

H. B. Wyman.....Deputy Grand Master
Sheldon.
N. R. Parvin.....Deputy Grand Secretary
Cedar Rapids.
Rev. Jas. Edmundson.....Grand Chaplain
Marshalltown.
O. P. Worsley.....Senior Grand Deacon
Red Oak.
J. H. Cable.....Junior Grand Deacon
Danville.
G. W. Lipe.....Senior Grand Steward
Council Bluffs.
J. H. Valentine.....Junior Grand Steward
Mason City.
O. W. Treman.....Grand Marshal
Newton.

CUSTODIANS.

C. T. Granger, (1899) Prest., Des Moines.
G. B. Van Saun, (1897) Secretary, Cedar Falls.
W. P. Allen, (1901) Dubuque.

GRAND LODGE MEETING.

The fifty-third annual communication of our Masonic grand body will be held in Boone June 2, 3, 4, 1896.

A Grand Lodge school will be opened on Friday, May 29, at 9 a. m., and continue Saturday and Monday following, under the direction of the custodians. All Master Masons in good standing are invited to attend.

Intending visitors and delegates should secure receipts for railway fares paid so as to entitled them to return at one-third fare.

The Grand Master has appointed the following Standing and Special Committees for the coming session of Grand Lodge to be held at Boone, June 2-4, 1896:

1. On Credentials—F. D. Stearns, 420; J. D. Butler, 479; R. B. Corder, 522.

2. Lodges Under Dispensation—J. F. Martin, 292; J. T. Scott, 174; I. L. Welch, 195.

3. On Chartered Lodges—Thos. Lambert, 169; Sumner Miller, 147; W. B. Davis, 139.

4. On Grand Master's Address—L. J. Baker, 16; T. B. Lacey, 71; L. A. Riley, 5.

5. Appeals and Grievances—A. R. Dewey, 26; R. M. Hunter, 390; H. B. Sloan, 10.

6. On Masonic Jurisprudence—L. E. Fellows, 144; L. C. Blanchard, 8; W. L. Eaton, 120.

7. On Finance—F. H. Loring, 18; J. M. Woodworth 486; C. H. Slocum, 496.

8. On Mileage and Per Diem—Alf. Wingate, 110; W. F. Carlton, 329; J. P. Morey, 309.

9. On Grand Lodge Library—Crom. Bowen, 110.

10. On Fraternal Correspondence—J. C. W. Coxe, 26.

Fraternal Dead—C. C. Clark, 318; W. F. Fidlar, 37; W. S. Pritchard, 210.

Trustees Grand Charity Fund—Chairman, E. C. Blackmar, P. G. M., 318; Treasurer, R. G. Phelps, P. G. M., 271; Secretary, J. D. Gamble, P. G. M., 61.

LOCAL COMMITTEES.

The following committees appointed by the Lodge at Boone and known as "Local Committees" have been opproved by the Grand Master and will have charge of all matters pertaining to the duties generally devolving upon such committees.

Parties desiring information regarding hotel rates, transportation, etc., will please correspond directly with the chairman of said committee at Boone, Iowa.

General Committee—W. H. Crooks, 79; A. S. Farrow, 79; C. E. Rice, 79.

On Transportation—T. J. Skidmore, 79; J. A. Rhodes, 79; C. E. Wells, 79.

On Hotels—J. B. McHose, 79; C. T. Ballou, 79; P. Wells, 79.

On Visitors—T. A. Bereman, 8; J. F. Grote, 349; Chas. Goetzman, 79; G. I. Miller, 79; A. P. Fogg, 79.

LOOK OUT FOR HIM.

B. F. Sharp, expelled from Marion Lodge No. 6, September 17, 1895, is reported as working Iowa brethren and others in Chicago, and representing himself as a worthy craftsman.

CINCINNATI.

The lodge of Cincinnati, Iowa, is in a flourishing condition, and the brothers there are of the right style. They supported a Masonic lecture on April 17, with a full house and an appreciative company.

BURIED WITH MASONIC HONORS.

TOLEDO, April 18.—Special: S. F. Crenshaw, of Tama, was buried yesterday with Masonic honors. He has resided in the county from its early days and for many years owned and operated the Crenshaw flouring mill on the Iowa river near Helena. He was later in business at Tama.

MARION'S PRIDE.

It is to be said to the credit of the craft in Marion that they have successfully completed a splendid Temple, the finest building in the city, where the various Masonic bodies have now deposited their belongings. As will be noted elsewhere, the event has been celebrated with pomp and splendor. The dedication will follow later.

A SIX STORY TEMPLE.

At last the workmen are actually engaged clearing away the rubbish, and the contract is let for the foundation of a six story Temple in this city, at Frist street and First avenue, opposite the City National (Bevers) Bank. It is expected to lay the corner stone about July 15. When this building is completed it will excel any of its kind in the state, and will be made to accommodate the largest grand and subordinate bodies whenever they come among us. No better work could have been begun and we hope it will be ready for use within the year.

Colorado deprecates the use of Masonic titles for business organizations and declares it improper.

Out in Oregon they defeated a resolution to admit ministers free and relieve them of all subordinate and grand lodge dues, justly holding that there should be no class favoritism in Masonry.

One of the most delightful receptions of the season was given by the lodges of Burlington, Des Moines No. 1, and Malta No. 318, on April 28. Music, recitations, an address, refreshments and sociability filled the evening. The far famed hospitality of the Brothers and Sisters of this city was equalled if not surpassed this time.

The necessity of efficient visitation and instruction of Masonic lodges, Royal Arch chapters, Cryptic councils and Knight Templar Commanderies is almost unanimously assented to and acted on. Rare, indeed, is the case where no such service is provided for and rendered. Culture of constituent Masonic bodies pays. It prevents their failure to pay dues and wards off their decline in good work socially, morally, benevolently and spiritually.—*Voice of Masonry.*

GLEANINGS.

The Grand Master of Alabama uses a personal seal for his official correspondence.

In California it is held that a lodge may instruct its representatives how to vote on certain questions in Grand Lodge, and that they are under obligations to respect it.

Canada has been pestered with "canvassing for office" in private lodges and in Grand Lodge. Dangerous practice.

Canada reports (1895) $14,759.93 expended for benevolence during the year, and a total of $218,094.65 out of a total revenue of $487,028.30 in forty years.

THE ROYAL ARCH.

CONVOCATIONS.

General Grand (U. S.) Baltimore, Md., ———, 1897.
Iowa Grand, Marshalltown, Oct. 15, 1896.

GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTED.

L. T. WELD.....GRAND HIGH PRIEST
Nevada.

Max. Beehler.....Deputy Grand High Priest
Manchester.

W. D. Irvine.....Grand King
Sioux City.

W. F. Cleveland.....Grand Scribe
Harlan.

R. F. B. Portman.....Grand Treasurer
Decorah.

Alf. Wingate.....Grand Secretary
Des Moines.

APPOINTED.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER.....Grand Chaplain
Marion.

H. H. Barnard.....Grand Captain of the Host
Elkader.

R. J. Crouch.....Grand Principal Sojourner
DeWitt.

W. W. Montgomery.....Grand Royal Arch Captain
Red Oak.

F. M. Thompson.....Grand Master of the Third Vail
Rock Rapids.

F. M. Dance.....Grand Master of the Second Vail
Missouri Valley.

N. T. Hendrix.....Grand Master of the First Vail
Columbus Junction.

Theo. Schreiner.....Grand Guard
Mt. Pleasant.

There are fifty grand chapters of Royal Arch Masons, with a total membership of 199,580.

Lieut. Robert E. Peary, the Arctic explorer, was raised to the Master Mason degree in Kane Lodge, No. 154, New York, last week.

Royal Arch Lodge, No. 2, of New York, recently held its 136th annual meeting. In all these years of its existence it has never failed to hold a meeting.

FROM ROCK RAPIDS.

Brother Geiger:—In reading your excellent journal I notice you are very much interested in the fraternity throughout the state, and feeling almost sure you would like to know of the doings of Lyon Chapter 111, Rock Rapids, I avail myself of this opportunity of addressing you.

On Monday evening, April 6, our Chapter was called to labor by the boy High Priest of the state, Companion Geo. G. MacNab. He is small of stature and looks as though he were not of lawful age, but he is, and is also a most enthusiastic Mason and a royal good fellow; the companions all like him.

Hon. J. M. Parsons is Excellent King, and he makes a typical king. He looks in his robes as I imagine Deoclesian or one of the Cæsars looked, with his strong, dark face. For Ex. Scribe, the young and beautiful T. B. Parker, probably the youngest man in the state who held the place of Eminent Commander in a Commandery.

H. B. Pierce is our C. H., and on account of his stern and decided manner and his way of saying things so they may be understood, make a splendid C. H. For P. S. we have this year the old stager, F. M. Thompson; he was the C. H. U. D., and later was elected successively as S. K. and H. P., and for R. A. C. we have companion L. J. Norton, who has served the chapter in this capacity two or three years before.

Our G. M. of the Veils were: Com., G. L. Martin, First Veil; Past H. P., E. L. Partch, *pro tem*, Second Veil; Past H. P., F. R. Manning, Third Veil. Commander Manning was one of the first team Lyon Chapter exalted and has always been an active and an efficient worker. Our team for the night was O. E. Shaffer, a merchant; J. Gould Kaplan, druggist, and Geo. M. Stillman, Attorney at Law, three excellent men. We had the very great pleasure of having seven visiting companions with us, among them was Rev. Geo. Manning, of Lyons, and Judge Wakefield, of Sioux City. The work went off smoothly, and as Com. F. E. Barber had charge of the floor there was no waiting, everything being ready just at the proper time. Com. B. was our Ex. S. U. D., and is always on hand when there is work to be done.

Com. Rev. Manning was always present no difference on what route we found ourselves, or if anything seemed difficult or dangerous, he was always there to offer up the incense of a pure and contrite heart, and the companions appreciated his services greatly.

The Hon. Judge Wakefield kindly consented to give the lectures and charge. We have heard them very often and they are always beautiful, but on this occasion they were doubly so on account of the impressive manner in which they were given. After the labor was ended, and all the lectures and instructions thereto belonging had been given, the folding doors were thrown open and we were invited into the dining room, where we sat down together and rested and refreshed ourselves until about low twelve, the hour when all eyes should be closed in sleep, when we departed in peace, and I trust are practicing virtue. So closed one of the many delightful meetings of Lyon Chapter No. 111.

Yours fraternally,

"T".

A. A. S. R.

There are Consistorial bodies of this Rite at Cedar Rapids, Clinton, Des Moines and Davenport.

The Scottish Rite bodies of the valley of Des Moines, have dates booked for May 26, 27, 28 and 29. Their officers for the ensuing year were installed on May 6. R. M. J. Coleman, 32°, is Secretary and Registrar.

The Serial Catalogue, Part 3, of the Library of Oriental Consistory, Chicago, covering numbers 200 to 300, is just out and a copy comes to us through Ill. Brother Gil. Barnard.

The Forty first Annual Re-union of the Scottish Rite bodies of Chicago, was held April 21–3, 1896.

COMMANDERIES.

CONCLAVES.

Grand Encampment, Pittsburg, Pa., Oct. 1898.
Iowa Grand, Templar Park, July 14, 1896.

SEVENTH DISTRICT (Grand Encampment) Iowa, Missouri and Ohio—Sir Knight Geo. M. Moulton, V. E., Grand Captain General, Chicago, Ill., Representative.

GRAND OFFICERS.

T. B. LACY.....GRAND COMMANDER
Council Bluffs.

T. R. Ercanbrack.....Deputy Commander
Anamosa.

F. H. Loring.....Grand Generalissimo
Oskaloosa.

Geo. W. Bever.....Grand Captain General
Cedar Rapids.

John W. Geiger.....Grand Prelate
Marion.

J. H. Pettibone.....Grand Senior Warden
Burlington.

D. M. Brownlee.....Grand Junior Warden
Sioux City.

E. B. Shaw.....Grand Treasurer
West Union.

Alf. Wingate.....Grand Recorder
Des Moines.

F. E. Fuller.....Grand Standard Bearer
Jefferson.

Alex. Peddie.....Grand Sword Bearer
Emmettsburg.

W. W. Straight.....Grand Warder
Atlantic.

Theodore Shreiner.....Grand Sentinel
Mt. Pleasant.

Sixty members of the Massachusetts Union of Knights Templar commanderies assembled at the Parker House, Boston, Apr. 16, night, Em. Sir Theodore L. Kelly, the President, presiding, and after a short business meeting at which Em. Sir Henry H. Litchfield, commander of Boston Commandery, and Em. Sir George F. Proctor, past commander of Palestine commandery of Chelsea, were admitted to the honors and privileges conferred by membership in the Union, supper was served supplemented by an able and interesting paper on the "Evolution of Freemasonry," prepared by Em. Sir Edwin Wright, Past Commander of Boston Commandery, which was at his request read by the chairman of the committee of arrangements, Em. Sir Frank F. Preble, Past Commander of Hugh de Payens Commandery. The next meeting of the Union to be held on the evening of the third Friday in May is to be a ladies' night.

[Here's a branch of Templar efficiency we Iowans should not neglect. Let us have the Commanders of Iowa associated.]

THE FREEMASON AND THE FEZ.

Published Monthly
In the interest of Freemasonry in Iowa and the Mystic Shrine in North America.

JOHN WESTLEY GEIGER, K. T., 32°, EDITOR,
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THE MASONIC PUBLISHING CO.,
No. 206 First Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, APRIL, 1896.

A LIVING ISSUE.

Whether it seem a reckless statement or not, we make the statement just the same, that the question of getting behind the adverse ballot cast against a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry out of personal spite or even disagreement in views, with every other evidence of fitness and good report in his favor, is a living issue. If the institution is progressive, and we so understand it, then in this age of specific personality, we must provide for a forward movement on this question. To see a man of the highest fitness and character standing without the door, barred by the person whose presence is distinguished only when this particular application is to be voted on, is to our mind a greater travesty on the "ancient landmarks" theory than some provision for the hearing of the case on its merits before a prudential committee, where the accuser and the representative of the accused may be heard, and if none appear brave enough to oppose him here, then let him enter. We honor the fathers with a true reverence; the Masonic truths they have handed down, ancient when they received them, are sacred to us; but we have the right to let the light of this generation in upon the oldest landmark, and where a forward step is necessary let it be taken without fear of danger. The sacredness of the ballot does not lie in the privilege to defraud "worthy and well qualified" applicants of the privileges of Masonry, any more than it does to take any other liberty with each others rights. We are deeply sincere in this view of the case and while we have before us the evidence we now have, of the evils of the method, we shall cry aloud and lift up, for some means of relief from continued and malicious black-balling of good men, for unfair and un-Masonic reasons.

ITS TRUE MEANING.

The making of a man a Mason cannot be said to add one cubit to his stature nor to be likely to make one hair white or black; neither can it be construed to promise him a successful business or social career. It is often claimed that men seek the privileges of the institution with these ends in view, and we know that they never reach these ends. Masonry is intended to make its votaries wiser and better, consequently happier. It also offers encouragement to the willing learner to pursue its many and varied phases of helpful information until the roughest ashlar in the quarries of human life may become fitted for "that spiritual building,—that house not made with hands —eternal in the heavens." It is the internal and not the external qualifications which recommend a man to Masons." The true meaning of Masonry may be said to be more nearly apprehended when we seek its mystic fellowship for the mutual encouragement it gives to self-knowledge, self-control, self-forgetfulness and the exercise of all the manly and moral virtues. These all of course, under the mellow rays of the Great Light in Masonry, by the aid (illustration, exemplification and interpretation) of the three lesser lights.

The sad intelligence has just reached us that R. W., Michael Nesbit, Grand Secretary of Pennsylvania, is dead.

WORK FROM THE QUARRIES.

Many of the annoyances that come to disturb the peace of the workmen would be greatly lessened if more care were taken in the inspection of the material brought up from the quarries. While no man should allow his personal feelings to interfere with the reception of a candidate for the mysteries of Marsonry, neither should he allow them to blunt his sensitiveness to the duty of rejecting work unfit for use. We need only cite the fact of numerous flagrant abuses of Masonic confidence; the misuse of presumed friendships made upon the tiled floor to awaken the remembrance of our brothers to the fact that there has been a lapse of the due caution so needful to be exercised before it is too late. We write from experience and it is painful to remember that there have been times when amid sad and heart rending troubles, the hands that greeted us with the strong grip of fraternity were clenched to strike the first blow to wound us. Let there be more care over the work from the quarries, that there be found those only who are worthy and well qualified to belong to the craft foremost and oldest of all fraternities.

THE EASTERN STAR.

GRAND BODIES MEET:
Iowa Grand Chapter, Clinton, Oct. 28, 1896.

GRAND OFFICERS.

MRS. JENNIE RULE	Mason City.	GRAND MATRON
E. B. DYKE	Charles City.	GRAND PATRON
Mrs. M. B. Rathbun	Clinton.	Associate Matron
Jno. W. Geiger	Marion.	Associate Patron
Maria Jackson	Council Bluffs.	Grand Secretary
Mrs. E. L. Houghton	Red Oak.	Grand Treasurer
Mrs. Delia Meredith	Newton.	Grand Conductress
Mrs. Adamson	Le Mars.	Associate Grand Conductress

APPOINTED.

MRS. BADER	Clinton.	GRAND CHAPLAIN
Mrs. Luella Usry	Des Moines	Adah
Mrs. G. F. Claycomb	Farragut.	Ruth
Miss Nellie Harris	New Hampton.	Esther
Mrs. Alice Randall	Algona.	Martha
Mrs. Stone	Columbia.	Electa
Mrs. Kate D. Allin	Iowa City.	Warder
Theodore Shreiner	Mt. Pleasant.	Sentinel

Our Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Jennie Rule, has been riding on freight trains and thereby getting a chance to show that she has pluck and is brave, for she managed to keep from either screaming or fainting after knowing that she was robbed, until she could hand the thief over to the authorities. In a recent letter she promises a list of new chapters soon.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Apl. 25, '96.

Julien Chapter No. 125, O. E. S., had a very pleasant meeting in the Masonic Hall corner Tenth and Main streets, it being highly honored by an official visitation by the Worthy Grand Matron, Mrs. Jennie Rule, of Grand Chapter O. E. S., of the state of Iowa. The Worthy Grand Matron at once ingratiated herself into the hearts of everyone present, by her kind word of advise, gentle manner, and motherly care and affection to these her children of the Eastern Star. No one present could have heard her impressive words of instruction without being inspired with a higher ideal of our noble Order, and encouraged to do better work and be more zealous in the good cause of humanity, and the building up of an Order dedicated to charity, truth, and lovingkindness. In our Worthy Grand Matron the Grand Chapter has indeed a power for doing good and bringing the standard of the work in the chapters under her charge to such proficiency that it will be second to none. It is only too bad that the time slipped around so quickly and we could not have our W. G. M. with us more, but she certainly has left a warm spot of affection in each and every one of our hearts, and we shall always hold her in kind remembrance for this pleasant and instructive evening. The work was exemplified on one candidate, and refreshments served after the meeting.

THE FEZ.

TRIBAL GATHERINGS.

Imperial Council, Cleveland, Ohio, June 23, 1896.
El-Kahir, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, (Annual) second Wednesday in December, 1896.
Kaaba, Davenport, Iowa, (Annual), first Tuesday in December, 1896.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

OFFICERS FOR 1895-6.

CHAS L. FIELD.....IMPERIAL POTENTATE
San Francisco, Cal.

J. T. Brush.....Imperial Deputy Potentate
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Harrison Dingman.....Imperial Chief Rabban
Washington, D. C.

Ed. R. Harris.....Imperial Assistant Rabban
Detroit, Michigan.

A. B. McGaffey.....Imperial High Priest
Denver, Colo.

Ethelbert F. Allen.....Imperial Oriental Guide
Kansas City, Missouri.

William S. Brown.....Imperial Treasurer
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

BENJAMIN W. ROWELL.....IMPERIAL RECORDER
Boston, Massachusetts.

Wm. H. S. Wright.....Imperial I Ceremonial Master
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Thomas J. Bishop.....Imperial II Ceremonial Master
Albany, New York.

R. M. Johnson.....Imperial Marshal
Chicago, Ill.

John H. Atwood.....Imperial Captain of Guard
Leavenworth, Kansas.

Horace K. Blanchard.....Imperial Outer Guard
Providence, Rhode Island.

Members ad Vitam:

1 Walter M. Fleming, New York.
2 Sam Briggs, Cleveland, Ohio.
3 William B. Melish, Cincinnati, Ohio.
4 Thomas J. Hudson, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Members Emeritus.

1 Albert Rawson, New York.
2 Charles W. Torey, New York.
3 George O. Tyler, Burlington, Vermont.
4 Charles T. McClenachan, New York.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Abdallah, Leavenworth, Kan.,—John H. Atwood, Peter J. Freling, Alfred B. Keller.

Acca, Richmond, Va.—Fred. Pleasants, John R. Charlton.

Afifi, Tacoma, Wash.—Hamilton Allan.

Ahmed, Marquette, Mich.—Leroy W. Midlam

Aladdin, Columbus, Ohio—John P. McCune, W. E. Joseph.

Al Chymia, Memphis, Tenn.—John W. Bailey.

Aleppo, Boston, Mass.—Benjamin W. Rowell, Jas. A. Fox, Thomas Waterman, Charles H. Porter.

Algeria, Helena, Mont.—George H. Casey.

Alhambra, Chattanooga, Tenn.—Archibald N. Sloan.

Al Koran, Cleveland, Ohio—Henry P. McIntosh, Richard P. Marvin, Arthur B. Foster, Andrew Squire, Sam Briggs (*Ad Vitam*).

Al Kader, Portland, Ore.—L. G. Clark.

Almas, Washington, D. C.—Harrison Dingman, George H. Walker, Andrew W. Kelley, Frank H. Thomas.

Al Malaikah, Los Angeles, Cal.—Frank Rader, Chas. Campbell.

Ararat, Kansas City, Mo.—Ethelbert F. Allen, William H. Brown, J. D. Havens, Arnold Shanklin.

Ballut Abyad, Albuquerque, N. M.—Joseph H. Kuhns.

Ben Hur, Austin, Tex.—Charles S. Morse.

Boumi, Baltimore, Md.—George W. Starr, Charles W. Hatter, Wm. J. Cunningham.

Cyprus, Albany, N. Y.—Charles H. Armatage, Thomas J. Bishop.

Damascus, Rochester, N. Y.—George F. Loder, Fred. E. Shedd, P. Kurtz Hill.

El Kalah, Salt Lake City, Utah—Arthur M. Grant.

El Katif, Spokane, Wash.—Henry L. Kennan.

El-Kahir, Cedar Rapids, Ia.—Geo. Woltz Bever, M. S. Rizer, A. D. Brown, John Westley Geiger.

El-Riad, Sioux Falls, S. D —A. B. Kittredge, Geo. W. Burnside, W. R. Burkholder.

El-Jebel, Denver, Col.—A. B. McGaffey, A. F. Vick Roy, Thomas Nicholl, R. H. Whitley.

El Zagal, Fargo, N. D.—W. B. Douglass, C. A. Hale.

El Zaribah, Phoenix, Ariz.—(Not entitled to representative).

Hamasa, Meridian, Miss.—Chas. S. Eastman.

Hella, Dallas, Tex.—Lawrence M. Knepfly, Geo. H. Green, Joseph Swope.

Irem, Wilkesbarre, Pa.—William L. Reader.

Ismailia, Buffalo, N. Y.—Charles W. Cushman, Frank T. Gilbert, George L. Brown, M. D., Erastus C. Knight.

India, Oklahoma City, O. T.—F. H. Reed.

Isis, Salina, Kan.—Edward W. Wellington, John F. Merrill, James A. Kimball, Edward A. Wharton.

Islam, San Francisco, Cal.—Charles L. Field, Victor D. Duboce, Reuben H. Lloyd, Charles L. Patton.

Jerusalem, New Orleans, La.—Richard Lambert.

Kaaba, Davenport, Ia.—G. M. Titus, Hon. W. I. Babb, C. T. Darling, Geo. F. White.

Kismet, Brooklyn, N. Y.—Wayland Trask, Clarence E. Stump, Frank E. Mason.

Kora, Lewiston, Me.—J. F. Babbitt, Charles E. Libby:

Korein, Rawlins, Wyo.—J. C. Davis.

Kosair, Louisville, Ky —William Ryan.

Lu Lu, Philadelphia, Pa.—Joseph S. Wright, Edward B. Jordan, Frederick Leibrandt, Phillip C. Shaffer.

Mecca, New York, N. Y.—Saram R. Ellison, George W. Millar, James McGee, Augustus W. Peters, Walter M. Fleming (*Ad Vitam*).

Media, Watertown, N. Y.—W. G. McCord, W. B. Sessions, D. G. Eggleston.

Medinah, Chicago, Ill.—Chester T. Drake, Rob't. M. Johnson, Frank C. Roundy, William Johnston.

Mohammed, Peoria, Ill.—George F. Henthorne.

Moila, St. Jo, Mo.—Joseph S. Browne, James W. Boyd.

Moolah, St. Louis, Mo.—G. W. Neiman, B. F. Nelson, A. Moore Berry, Otto F. Stifel.

Morocco, Jacksonville, Fla.—Brigham H. Chadwick.

Moslem, Detroit, Mich.—Wm. M. Bailey, Ed. R. Harris, Lou Burt, Charles F. Beck.

Mount Sinai, Montpelier, Vt.—Alfred A Hall, Lauren B. Whipp, Olin W. Daley.

Murat, Indianapolis, Ind.—John T. Brush, Jos. W. Smith, Henry H. McGaffey, Chalmers Brown.

Naja, Deadwood, S. D.—Daniel K. Dickenson.

Oasis, Charlotte, N. C.—Walter S. Liddell.

Oriental, Troy, N. Y.—Henry Schneider, J. Marshall Colcord, Fred E. Wells, David R. Clary.

Osiris, Wheeling, W. Va.—Matthew R. Wolff, J. C. Rihel-daffer, Lewis N. Tavenner.

Osman, St. Paul, Minn.—W. H. S. Wright, T. W. Hugo, H. C. Hope, James F. Lawless.

Palestine, Providence, R. I.—George H. Burnham, Horace K. Blanchard, Albert L. Anthony, Geo. L. Shepley.

Pyramid, Bridgeport, Conn.—Hugh Stirling, Thaddeus B. Beecher, Carleton E. Hoadley, Charles W. Gale.

Rajah, Reading, Pa.—J. Lew Rake, George E. Haak

Rameses, Toronto, Can.—Henry A. Collins.

Sahara, Pine Bluff, Ark —John T. Marsh.

Salaam, Olney, Ill.—G. D. Slanker.

Saladin, Grand Rapids, Mich.—Lou. B. Winsor, Charles E. Fink, John A. Wolcott, Jay D. Utley.

Sesostris, Lincoln, Neb.—Dr. Geo. H. Simmons, Chas. E. Casey, Fred J. Benedict.

Syria, Pittsburgh, Pa.—William S. Brown, William H. Walker, James Kerr, Jr., Americus V. Holmes, Thomas J. Hudson (*Ad Vitam*).

Syrian, Cincinnati, O.—O. W. B. Melish, *Ad Vitam*, M. L. Buchwalter, J. H. Bromwell, Levi C. Goodale, Allen Andrews.

Tangier, Omaha, Neb.—Eli A. Barnes, Henry C. Atkins, Ira O. Rhoades, Philip M. Rose.

Tebala, Rockford, Ill.—Geo. R. Atkinson.

Tripoli, Milwaukee, Wis.—Eugene S. Elliott, Luther L. Caufy, William H. Brazier.

Yaarab, Atlanta, Ga.—Henry C. Stockdell.

Zamora, Birmingham, Ala.—W. J. Pearce.

Zem Zem, Erie, Penn.—Frank G. Maus, Frank J. Bassett

Ziyara, Utica, N. Y.—John W. Boyle, William H. Cloher, Jr., Jacob Scheehl.

Zuhrah, Minneapolis, Minn.—John A. Schleuer, J. B. Hudson, R. H. Hartley.

...The FEZ....

Devoted to the Interests of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in North America.

PARTY BOOKINGS.

We've no particular amount of time at command, but will attend to booking a single berth or a sleeper full of Shriners if they want to go by any of the lines given in this journal. Write to Jno. W. Geiger, Recorder, Marion or Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

THE RATE OF FARE.

By announcement from the Railroads the rate is to be ONE FARE for the round trip (east of Chicago, with hopes for same from W. P. A. lines) which will make the rate $10.00 from Chicago; Sleeper $2.00. Rates from western points can be ascertained from local agents.

IOWA NOBLES.

Can arrange to join the Imperial train enroute and we hope all will arrange to do so at Chicago. El-Kahir Representatives will be quartered at the KENNARD, corner St. Clair and Bank Sts., where the Nobles will be welcome. Rates range from $2.00 to $3.00 per day. Write to W. T. Robbins, Hotel Commandery, Cleveland, Ohio.

Noble Frank E. Briggs, of Sac City, has just returned from spending the winter in California, where he represented El-Kahir at meetings of the Order in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento. He speaks in high praise of the courtesies extended, and especially of the kindness of our beloved Imperial Potentate Charles L. Field, of San Francisco. This is not the first time Iowa Nobles have come home telling such things on Charley. He's all right !

Moila, of St. Joseph, Mo., goes to Kirksville on June 5, and wherever they go there is always a pleasant meeting.

THE IMPERIAL ROUTE.

From a private letter of the Imperial Potentate we ascertain that his purpose is to caravan across the desert via The Central Pacific to Ogden; Union Pacific to Omaha; Chicago & Northwestern to Chicago; Lake Shore and Michigan Southern to Cleveland. He has invited the Representatives and Nobles to join the Imperial Divan enroute, and we expect Iowa Nobles will *rendezvous* at Cedar Rapids and Chicago. The Time will be announced next month.

THE SHRINE AND MASONRY.

We presume this discussion will continue to occupy the attention of the Masonic journals until the question is either worn out or ceases to be interesting. We have repeatedly cited the best of authority (the Imperial Council itself) for a complete disclaimer of being a Masonic body. Unlike the Chapter, Commandery or Scottish Rite bodies (where Masonic signs are used) no signs common to any Masonic body are ever used to test the right of a Noble to recognition. The Imperial Council emphatically discountenances even the wearing of Shrine emblems with any other pendant or combined. Of course we see this Order injured by some continually, but for that the Order is not to blame. The Ritual of the Mystic Shrine contains no suggestion of Masonic connection or origin and certainly puts no other link into its organic law than the item showing that Masonic standing is pre-requisite to membership. We would respectfully suggest that each individual who intends to express an opinion upon this matter, ascertain from the Imperial Constitution just how the matter does stand.

AMONG THE TEMPLES.

Acca, Richmond, Va., has a committee appointed to prepare a history of the Temple to be read at their tenth anniversary, June 9, 1896.

El-Kahir, Cedar Rapids, rounded her tenth milestone, Feb. 9, 1896, and the preparation of a historical sketch is under way.

The following Temples sent us notices of meetings for "business and ceremony."

April 8, El-Katiff, Spokane, Wash.; April 15, Irem, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; notice is also served that a meeting will follow the Grand Commandery meeting to be held May 26–7; Afifi, Tacoma, Wash., announces a meeting on the above date. April 16, Hella, of Dallas, Texas, holds high carnival. April 21, Ararat, Kansas City, Mo., went to Springfield. April 22, Kosair, Louisville, Ky., exhibited the obelisks; Media, Watertown, N. Y., held a successful meeting on the above date. Eight candidates; visitors were present from many Temples and a great time had.

"In which whatever in this worldly state
Is sweet and pleasing unto living sense,
Or that may daintiest fantasil aggravate,
Was poured forth with plentiful dispense,
And made there to abound with lavish affluence."

Islam, of San Francisco, cut all the strings on the same date. No guilty one escaped. April 23, Acca, Richmond, Va., celebrated, with an official visit by Noble James McGee, of New York. April 24, Ben Hur slashed her chariots into San Antonio, Texas; they announce that the fee will be $50 hereafter. April 27, Rameses, Toronto, Can., watered the palms and tangled the crescent. April 29, Boumi, Baltimore, Md., again made Hazazer's hall resound with the rejoicings of the elect. Mecca, mamma of us all, held a session on the above date. Ladies, or "Isis night" is announced for May 8; their last session till fall will be May 29; they are getting up a baseball club, El-Kahir's nine chalenges them. April 30, Tangier, had another of "the best meetings on record;" a half-tone group of the officers accompanied the notice. Several Iowa Nobles visited the meeting and praise the work and the welcome. May 1, Hamasa, Meridian, Miss., was in line; May 13, Aleppo, Boston, Mass., put in a full day. Temple Meeting, 2 p. m.; Children's entertainment at 4:30; Musical and literary at 7:30. They announce the pilgrimage to Cleveland. May 14, Zamora, Birmingham, Ala., goes to Montgomery, and Paul Gilardoni "the noblest Roman of 'em all" is chief of patrol. He's a corker. May 17, Ahmed, Marquette, Mich., works and announces "Hully Gee! What a time we'll have."

THE LATEST COMERS.

Lulu, of Phila., Pa., met May 6; Ladies' night May 11, Next Smoker, May 20, 1896. Privilege to bring a member of Commandery along. What for Charles, to burn 'em?

IMPERIAL COUNCIL, NOBLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

CLEVELAND, O., JUNE 23–4.

For the above occasion the BALTIMORE & OHIO R. R. has authorized a rate of one first class standard fare for the round trip. On this basis the rate from Chicago to Cleveland and return will be $10.00. Tickets at the low rate will be sold on June 21 and 22, and they will be good for return until June 25. The B. & O. is the only line running Pullman sleeping cars between Chicago and Cleveland. The fast express leaves Chicago at 7:10 p. m., arriving at Cleveland at 8:10 the following morning. Through tickets for this occasion will probably be on sale at all coupon stations throughout the West. Apply to your local ticket agent for tickets via the B & O.

Tickets and sleeping car berths may be secured at City Ticket Office, No. 193 Clark Street, and Grand Central Passenger Station, corner Harrison Street and Fifth Avenue, Chicago.

From Abdallah, of Leavenworth, Kan., comes a notice for May 13, at which time they will have a meeting of unusual interest.

IMPERIAL COUNCIL.

COMMITTEES.

As required by the Constitution of the Imperial Council, the Imperial Potentate announces the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

CREDENTIALS—George H. Walker, of District Columbia; Henry C. Akin, Nebraska; Frank T. Gilbert, New York; A. B. Kittredge, South Dakota; William Johnston, Illinois.

DISPENSATIONS AND CHARTERS—Edward B. Jordan, of Pennsylvania; Trevannion W. Hugo, Minnesota; Frank C. Roundy, Illinois; Wayland Trask, New York; Joseph W. Smith, Indiana.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS—Benjamin F. Nelson, of Missouri; George F. White, Iowa; Thomas Waterman, Massachusetts; William M. Bailey, Michigan; Edward W. Wellington, Kansas.

GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS—Saram R. Ellison, of New York; Richard P. Marvin, Ohio; Matthew R. Wolff, West Virginia; Hugh Stirling, Connecticut; Arthur M. Grant, Utah.

JURISPRUDENCE AND LAWS—Reuben H. Lloyd, of California; Allen Andrews, Ohio; Caleb Saunders, Massachusetts; Charles W. Cushman, New York; John W. Boyle, New York.

N. B.—In accordance with the Standing Resolution of the Imperial Council, the Committee on Jurisprudence and Laws will meet at the Weddell House, Cleveland, Ohio, "one day in advance of the meeting of the Imperial Council."

MILEAGE AND PAY OF REPRESENTATIVES—George F. Loder, of New York; Charles E. Fink, Michigan; George W. Starr, Maryland; Peter J. Freling, Kansas; Alonzo F. Vick Roy, Colorado.

TRANSACTIONS OF IMPERIAL OFFICERS—John W. Geiger, of Iowa; Richard Lambert, Louisiana; Lauren B. Whipp, Vermont; George W. Millar, New York; Frank J. Bassett, Pennsylvania.

NECROLOGY—William Ryan, Kentucky; Lawrence M. Knepfly, Texas; William H. Walker, Pennsylvania; Henry Schneider, New York; Rowland H. Hartley, Minnesota.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON JURISDICTION OF AHMED AND RAMESES TEMPLES—Morris L. Buchwalter, of Ohio; George H. Burnham, Rhode Island; Eugene S. Elliott, Wisconsin; Frank Rader, California; Arnold Shanklin, Missouri.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

From the Imperial Recorder by order of the Imperial Potentate, comes the announcement of the following proposed amendments to the Imperial Constitution.

SEC. 2, Art. IV. To make the sessions triennial instead of annual.

SEC. 2, Art. VIII. To reduce the Recorder's bond to $2,000.

SEC 4, same Article, to print the Recorder's annual report, distribute the same to each Temple and Representative and make a detailed report triennially. Art. IX. to read "triennial" instead of "annual" in twelfth line.

SEC. 1, Art. XVI. To read after first three lines "required and paid one hundred dollars, which must accompany the application for dispensation, and if the dispensation is refused the money shall be returned to the applicants, and if a charter is granted, an additional sum of fifty dollars shall be paid before the charter is delivered." Article XXXIII. to read, "The initiation fee of two dollars for every initiate shall be paid in accordance with Article XVI. of this Constitution.

SEC. 1, Art. II—Change to "triennial."

SEC. 2, Art. III—Change to "triennially."

SEC. 6, Art. III—Change in fifth line to read "term ending May 1 next, preceding the session of the Imperial Council" and in last line change "year" to "term."

Article XXIV—Strike out words "the same" and substitute "SPECIAL" making a material but just change.

SEC. 2, Art. IV—Substitute entire as follows:

"The first eight officers shall be elected by ballot and by a majority vote, at each annual (or triennial?) session. The remaining officers shall be appointed by the Imperial Potentate and shall hold their office until their successors are elected, appointed and installed.

A NEEDED SECTION.

THE FEZ Suggests to the Imperial Recorder the presentation of the following Section:

Add as Section 8, Article XXX—"Visiting Nobles shall be required, in addition to such examination as is deemed necessary to prove their worthiness to visit other than their own Temples, to produce a receipt or passport from the Temple to which they belong, showing that they are not in arrears for dues at the time such visit is paid, as well as the fact that they are then in good standing.

THE JOURNAL'S VIEW.

The Mystic Shrine, from our standpoint, is a body of Masons, but in no sense a Masonic body. The distinction may seem fine to some, but it is important. It is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry, but it is in the power of any number of Masons to form a new society and provide that nobody but Masons shall ever be admitted into it. Such, substantially, is the Shrine; and while it is not a Masonic body, yet as all its members are Masons, we naturally take more interest in its doings than if it were differently constituted. We think, therefore, that Masons should keep in view the fact that the Shrine, though it is made of Masons, is not part of Masonry.—*Masonic Home Journal.*

The Order of The Mystic Shrine in the United States has invested $350,000 in real estate, paraphernalia, etc. How much of this real estate is included in Masonic Homes?—*Orphan's Friend.*

REMARK.—Since every Noble is a Mason and through that channel has his interest in the support of the Home or charity fund, we see no point to the question since the Shrine is not a Masonic body. Yet, dear *Orphan's Friend*, when your nearest Shrine Temple has acquired a surplus, if you knock at the door of the treasury, we doubt not that you shall receive. "Ask, and ye shall receive; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

BY THE LAKE SHORE.

As announced last month, this perfectly equipped Railway is in the push for business to the Imperial Council with the announcement that ONE FARE pays the bill for the round trip by either of seven magnificent trains all making quick time and having all the modern conveniences. Those wishing to make the trip should secure a LAKE SHORE FOLDER, in which is given full information of the time of departure and arrival of trains. For all information address C. K. Wilber, Western Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.

EL-KAHIR TEMPLE.

As this Journal now reaches every Recorder in America each month, and goes into the hands of a large number of Nobles regularly, we have decided to use this column for such official announcements as may be deemed necessary from time to time.

JNO. W. GEIGER, Recorder.

EL-KAHIR'S YEAR'S WORK

We have forwarded the annual report for El-Kahir Temple to the Imperial Recorder:

FINANCIAL.

Dues for 1271 Nobles	$130 00
Fees for initiation on 151 new members	302 00
Total to April 30, 1896	$432 00

STATISTICAL.

Nobles reported last year	1136	
Admitted this year	151	
By affiliation from other Temples	3	
Total		1290
DEDUCT.		
Demitted	6	
Suspended	3	
Expelled	1	
Died	9	
Total		19
Present Membership		1271
Total of Gross Membership to date	1363	

MISSING NOBLES.

Somewhere amid the sandy wastes of the desert, the following members of El-Kahir have been lost. Recorders of Temples will confer a favor if they will notify us whenever one turns up among his flock.

The names of Nobles are placed on this list when mail addressed from this office is returned as uncalled for or undelivered. This is not a posting list of delinquents, but a request for information about missing Nobles of this Temple. Our own Nobles can aid us by giving information about either of the following:

NAMES.	LAST POST-OFFICE.
Herbert L. Sill,	Chicago, Ill.
A. G. Smith,	Ft. Collins, Col.
A. F. Graham,	Mason City, Iowa.
Edw. N. Pickering,	Boston, Mass.
Rollin E. Smith,	Spokane, Wash.
Guy H. Strong,	Duluth, Minn.

ABOUT MISSING NOBLES.

Numerous responses have come to our inquiries about Missing Nobles, but letters still continue to be "returned to writer" for all whose names are "on the list this month." Some are and others "are not" in good standing. Recorders will do well to demand the passports of visitors.

ENTERED THE UNSEEN TEMPLE.

Since we announced the decease of Noble Nandell we are pained to chronicle the departure of two more:

NOBLE FRANK D. HUSSEY, of Des Moines, died April 18, 1896.

NOBLE LEANDER J. BOHN, of Dubuque, died April 23, 1896.

PASSPORTS 1896.

The Recorder is pleased to announce to all El-Kahir Nobles that he is ready to issue Passports of the new form to all whose dues are paid for 1896 or beyond, and that they will be needed in visiting other Temples as a copy in blank has been sent to each Recorder throughout the Imperial realm.

WHO'S GOING TO CLEVELAND?

This is our only and final notice to Nobles who are thinking of going to Cleveland, Ohio, with us in June next. Time of starting will be announced later, and in Charles City notice if possible. Half fares have been secured east of Chicago, and hopes are bright for like concessions west thereof. Sleepers run from Cedar Rapids to Chicago, and likely through to Cleveland. Reservations will be secured by all routes if we are notified in lime. The outing is to be a scorcher, as Cleveland celebrates some kind of a "Triennial" while we're there. One lake side-trip we know of and others no doubt will follow. Read everything we announce this month, then get a move on you if you're going.

FUTURE MEETINGS.

The Illustrious Potentate is arranging dates for meetings at Charles City and Ames, during this year.

DUES ARE DUE.

Nobles of El-Kahir will confer a great favor upon the Recorder, with but little trouble for themselves, if they will remit by check or draft instead of waiting until the rush of the Meetings to pay dues.

TO RECORDERS.

El-Kahir Temple issues a Passport to all her nobles who are in good standing—*good to the 31st of December following.* We will consider it a favor if such Passports are honored when they bear the official seal of this Temple.

IMPERIAL IRADE.

The Imperial Potentate announces under March 20th, that the Imperial Council will meet in Cleveland, Ohio, on June 23–24, 1896, just one week later than originally announced.

Don't forget the date.

THE

THROUGH SLEEPING

.... AND ....

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